



## Transportation Advisory Committee

Date: Wednesday September 13, 2023.

Time: 7:00 PM – 8:55 PM.

Location: Conducted via Remote Participation.

### Remote Participation Details

To Register for this Zoom meeting:

<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/31364/81>

Meeting ID: 834 5731 9060

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Members of the public are asked to send written comments to Laura Swan at [laura.swan.TAC@gmail.com](mailto:laura.swan.TAC@gmail.com).

Additional documents regarding the below agenda items will be posted to the calendar notice on the Town's website at:

<https://www.arlingtonma.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/31354/82>.

### **\*Notice to the Public on meeting privacy\***

In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology, all participants wishing to attend via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and follow multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by telephone at (646) 876-9923 using the meeting ID provided above.

### Agenda

**NOTE:** Times are for planning purposes only and will vary depending upon discussion. If time becomes short, some topics may be postponed to a later meeting.

1. **7:00 Administration** – Chair (15 min).
  - A. Notice of Remotely Conducted Meetings.
  - B. Approval of 7/12/23 meeting notes.
  - C. Town Day Table.
  - D. Correspondence.
2. **7:15 Public Comments (for information only, not for action)** – Chair (5 min).

3. **7:20 Town Issues/Activities (not already on the agenda)** - John/Wayne/ Corey (15 min).
4. **7:35 New Business: Bow St** – Laura (10 min).
5. **7:45 Discussion: Mass Ave & Appleton Design Update** –John Alessi (20 minutes)
6. **8:05 Update: Thompson School (Regis Road)** - Laura (5 min).
7. **8:10 Update: Chestnut St Improvements** –Bill (5 min).
8. **8:15 Update: Summer St and Sunset--Shoji** (5 min).
9. **8:20 Discussion: Highland and High Haith--Laura** (10 min).
10. **8:30 Discussion: Wachusett Ave and Appleton St** – Jim, Jeff (10 min).
11. **8:40 Discussion: Jason St** –Jim (5 min)
12. **8:45 Update: Broadway /Rawson Rd Crosswalk** – Scott, John Aslanian (5 min).
13. **8:50 Update: Winter and Oxford St** –John Aslanian (5 min).
14. **8:55 Adjourn.**

### **Correspondence Sent/Received from July 7, 2023 to September 8, 2023.**

1. "Arlington High School Parking Concerns," Letter from the Select Board to TAC, 07/17/23.
2. "Request: Additional Signage" [at Downing Sq], Letter from the Select Board to TAC, 07/19/23.
3. "Oxford St and Winter St safety Concerns," Letter from the Select Board to TAC, 07/19/23.
4. "Request for crosswalk at Bow St - Minuteman Bikeway Corridor," email to TAC from Aleksandr White, 9/7/23.

### **Next Meetings**

- Wednesday, October 11 – Conducted via Remote Participation.
- Wednesday, November 8 – Conducted via Remote Participation.

### **Attachments**

1. Governor Charles Baker's 3/12/2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

OFFICE OF THE SELECT BOARD

ERIC D. HELMUTH, CHAIR  
JOHN V. HURD, VICE CHAIR  
DIANE M. MAHON  
STEPHEN W. DECOURCEY  
LENARD T. DIGGINS



730 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE  
TELEPHONE  
781-316-3020  
781-316-3029 FAX

TOWN OF ARLINGTON  
MASSACHUSETTS 02476-4908

MEMORANDUM

TO: Laura Swan, Chair  
Transportation Advisory Committee

FROM: Britton Mallard  
Administrative Assistant

DATE: August 17, 2023

RE: Arlington High School Parking Concerns

The Select Board at the meeting of May 8th, 2023, referred the attached to you for your review and recommendations back to the Board.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

attachment

BM

CC: John Alessi, Senior Transportation Planner

**From:** Liz Reisberg <reisberg@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2023 11:06 AM

**To:** Stephen DeCoursey <sdeCoursey@town.arlington.ma.us>; Len Diggins <ldiggins@town.arlington.ma.us>; Diane Mahon <dmahon@town.arlington.ma.us>; John Hurd <jhurd@town.arlington.ma.us>; Eric Helmuth <ehelmuth@town.arlington.ma.us>

**Subject:** High School parking!

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dear Select Board,

As we consider loosening parking restrictions in Arlington I want to underscore that we currently have parking issues to address BEFORE making any changes.

High school parking is a mess! Maybe it's my age, but I don't understand why so many students need to drive to school, especially as the Town is trying to encourage more use of public transportation and bicycles. Don't we need to do better orientation in the high school about why we need to depend less on cars and make use of alternatives?

Meantime, cars parked along Churchill, Wildwood, and Windermere are a safety hazard. I believe that these streets limit parking to two hours. Can't that be enforced? There is no way that an emergency vehicle or trash collection trucks could squeeze through cars parked on both sides of Windermere during school hours.

Additionally, I believe Mass Law requires that cars not park within 20 feet of an intersection. There are so many cars parked AT THE INTERSECTION of Wildwood and Churchill that it's nearly impossible to see oncoming cars on Wildwood when you turn off Mass Ave and head up Churchill.

I realize that the construction on the high school has created parking challenges but I don't think the answer is compromising safety by clogging nearby side streets. I hope that the Select Board will ask the APD to (at least) put warnings on cars illegally parked for a while and if the situation doesn't improve, begin to ticket. This can't continue for the next couple of years or however long the construction continues. I worry that even once the construction is completed that there will not be provision for all the student cars. There has to be a way to address this issue now!

Thank you,

Liz Reisberg  
Precinct 10

• • • • •

[liz@reisberg.org](mailto:liz@reisberg.org)

[reisberg@gmail.com](mailto:reisberg@gmail.com)

OFFICE OF THE SELECT BOARD

ERIC D. HELMUTH, CHAIR  
JOHN V. HURD, VICE CHAIR  
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TOWN OF ARLINGTON  
MASSACHUSETTS 02476-4908

MEMORANDUM

TO: Laura Swan, Chair  
Transportation Advisory Committee

FROM: Britton Mallard  
Administrative Assistant

DATE: July 19, 2023

RE: Request: Additional Signage

The Select Board at the meeting of July 17th, 2023, referred the attached to you for your review and recommendations back to the Board.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

attachment

BM

CC: John Alessi, Senior Transportation Planner

**From:** [Katie Epmeier Tremblay](#)  
**To:** [SBAdmin](#)  
**Subject:** Inquiry about the Park/Lowell/Westminster/Bow St Intersection  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 27, 2023 1:58:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [Screen Shot 2023-06-27 at 11.47.25 AM.png](#)

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello!

I sent this to the office of traffic and parking, but someone suggested I should reach out to the Select Board instead about my question, regarding adding some signage to the existing stop signs at that intersection. Here is the email.

Thank you...

Hello!

I am wondering who I could talk to, to look into possibly having some additional signage added to the stop signs at the intersection (named in the subject line). Being a resident of the area, and going through the intersection multiple times a day, the traffic flow and right-of-way are not intuitive for people who are not as familiar with that intersection. It continues to be a bit of a safety hazard.

I am curious if the town has ever considered adding small signs underneath the stop signs on all the other streets leading into the intersection that need to yield to the oncoming Park Ave traffic. Signs that would say, "Oncoming traffic does not stop," "Traffic on the right does not stop," "Traffic from the left does not stop," etc.

I have felt, since moving to this neighborhood 5 years ago from East Arlington, that something along those lines would make more clear what the flow of traffic is for people who encounter that intersection for the first time/first few times; to make it more transparent and less of an assumption that traffic from all directions stops. I know when I first started coming through that intersection years ago, it was not clear at all what was going on. Eventually I realized after driving it a few times. I witness this situation multiple times a week. People who just don't know who has the right-of-way.

Please let me know if there is a process that would need to happen to get this looked at. I am happy to reach out to neighbors in the area to get signatures, etc.

Thank you! I have also included a picture/an example of what I mean:



-Katie Tremblay  
25 Elder Terrace, Arlington

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JOHN V. HURD, VICE CHAIR  
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TOWN OF ARLINGTON  
MASSACHUSETTS 02476-4908

MEMORANDUM

TO: Laura Swan, Chair  
Transportation Advisory Committee

FROM: Britton Mallard  
Administrative Assistant

DATE: July 19, 2023

RE: Oxford Street and Winter Street Safety Concerns

The Select Board at the meeting of July 17th, 2023, referred the attached to you for your review and recommendations back to the Board.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

attachment

BM

CC: John Alessi, Senior Transportation Planner



Select Board members: Stephen DeCoursey, Len Diggins, Eric Helmuth, John Hurd, Diane Mahon

CC: Town Manager (Sandy Pooler, James Feeney), TAC (Laura Swan), Planning & Community Development (Claire Ricker), DPW (Michael Rademacher), Recreation (Joe Connelly)

Dear Town of Arlington Select Board,

We, the residents of Oxford and Winter Streets, nearby streets in East Arlington, and the Lesley Ellis School community are very worried about the hazardous conditions on Oxford Street and Winter Street. Despite being narrow residential streets, there is a high volume of traffic between Broadway and Massachusetts Ave, many on their way to/from the Lesley Ellis School and/or Crosby Park. This has created an increasingly dangerous situation, particularly for the many children walking and biking to Lesley Ellis, Thompson Elementary School, the Gibbs Middle School and to the activities at Crosby Park.

On a regular basis, we continue to see the following:

- Traffic speeds far too fast for a narrow residential street
- Vehicles turning rapidly onto Winter St. from Mass Ave, and onto Oxford St. from Broadway
- Cars parking in “no parking” zones, blocking driveways, and disrespecting crosswalk laws, particularly during Lesley Ellis drop-off and pick-up times
- Poorly placed sign at Raleigh St. indicating that Oxford St. is one-way

In the past eight years, a pedestrian was injured by a vehicle (2023), one car went through the brick wall at Herb’s Locksmith (98A Broadway), one car hit the traffic signal pole at Oxford and Broadway, and two parked cars at Oxford St. have been rear-ended. These incidents, along with the list above, present an ongoing risk that someone will be seriously injured or worse.

We strongly encourage the Town of Arlington to take the following steps:

1. Promote the development of a Traffic Management plan with Town officials, TAC, the Lesley Ellis School and neighborhood residents to improve the arrival/dismissal issues that create such problems every weekday morning and afternoon
2. Implement short-term traffic calming measures, such as speed display signs or temporary bump outs (like those used on Chestnut St prior to construction)
3. Plan for and search for funding sources for long-term traffic calming measures, such as speed humps or chicanes, that can be used as a Traffic Calming Toolkit, not only for Winter and Oxford streets, but for residential streets across the neighborhood

Signed,

Jennifer Litowski	Vincent Baudoin	Phil Goff
James Fleming	Katie Carroll	Stacey Sloboda
Cutler Cleveland	Laurie Abrams-Hall	Caitlin Parton
Susan Stamps	Justin Loutsch	Christopher Mow
Jess Fallon	Danya Sherman	Paul Schlichtman
Sarah Coleman	Ayse Aytar	Paulo Nieto

Catherine Farrell	Lynn Wolfsfeld	Christopher Logan
Liz Thorstenson	David Maltzan	Muris Kobaslija
Amy Ellentuck	Sarah Kobaslija	Arthur Prokosch
Andrew Greenspon	Jennifer Susse	Coline Canil
Paulo Nieto Duran	Ann Boland	Pat Hanlon
Julie Rioux	Ellen Cohen	Meaghan Saddawi

# Request for crosswalk on Bow St. near Minuteman Bikway corridor

Many children cross Bow St near the bike path entrance on their commute to and from school. This includes young children walking to and from Peirce Elementary School. At present, there is no crosswalk for safe passage over Bow St.. Cars and trucks often exceed the speed limit and have poor visibility around the bend on Bow St. This poses a significant risk of an accident for children that cross the street. I cordially request the town install a crosswalk on Bow St in the section near the entrance to the bike path. I also request that the town to provide signage to encourage vehicles to drive cautiously, especially during school hours. See attached image for details.

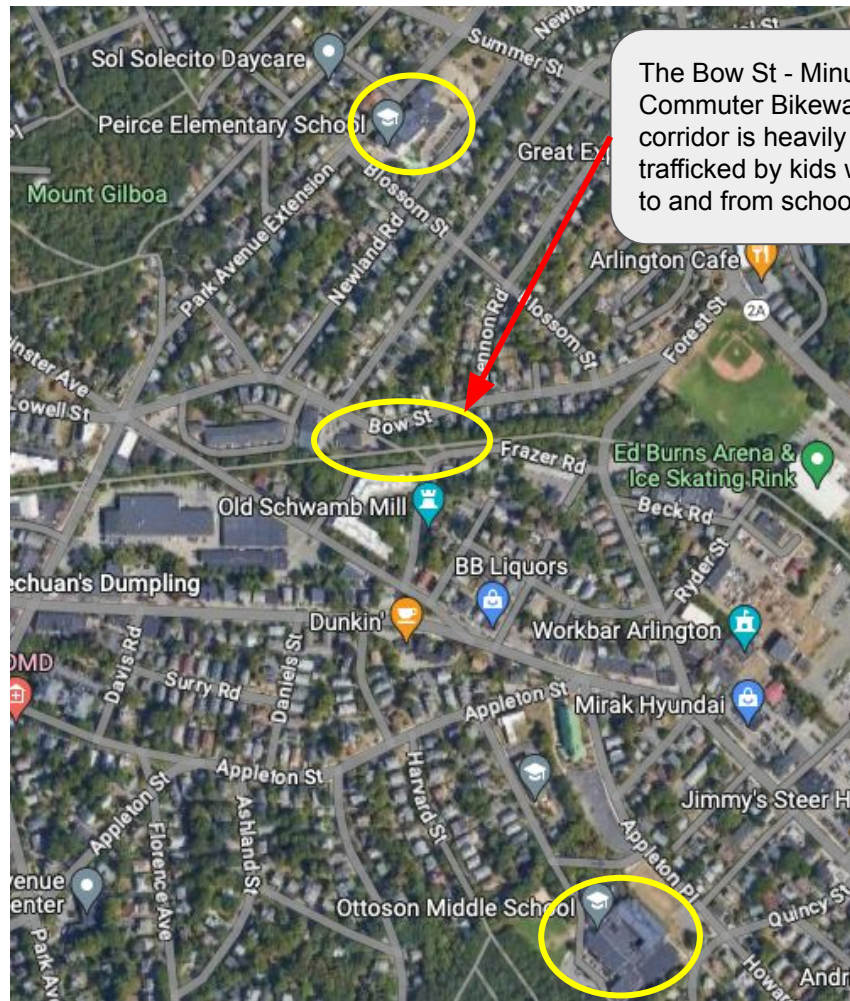
Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions.

Aleks White

617-905-2544

[aleksjwhite@gmail.com](mailto:aleksjwhite@gmail.com)

Resident at 53 Lowell St.

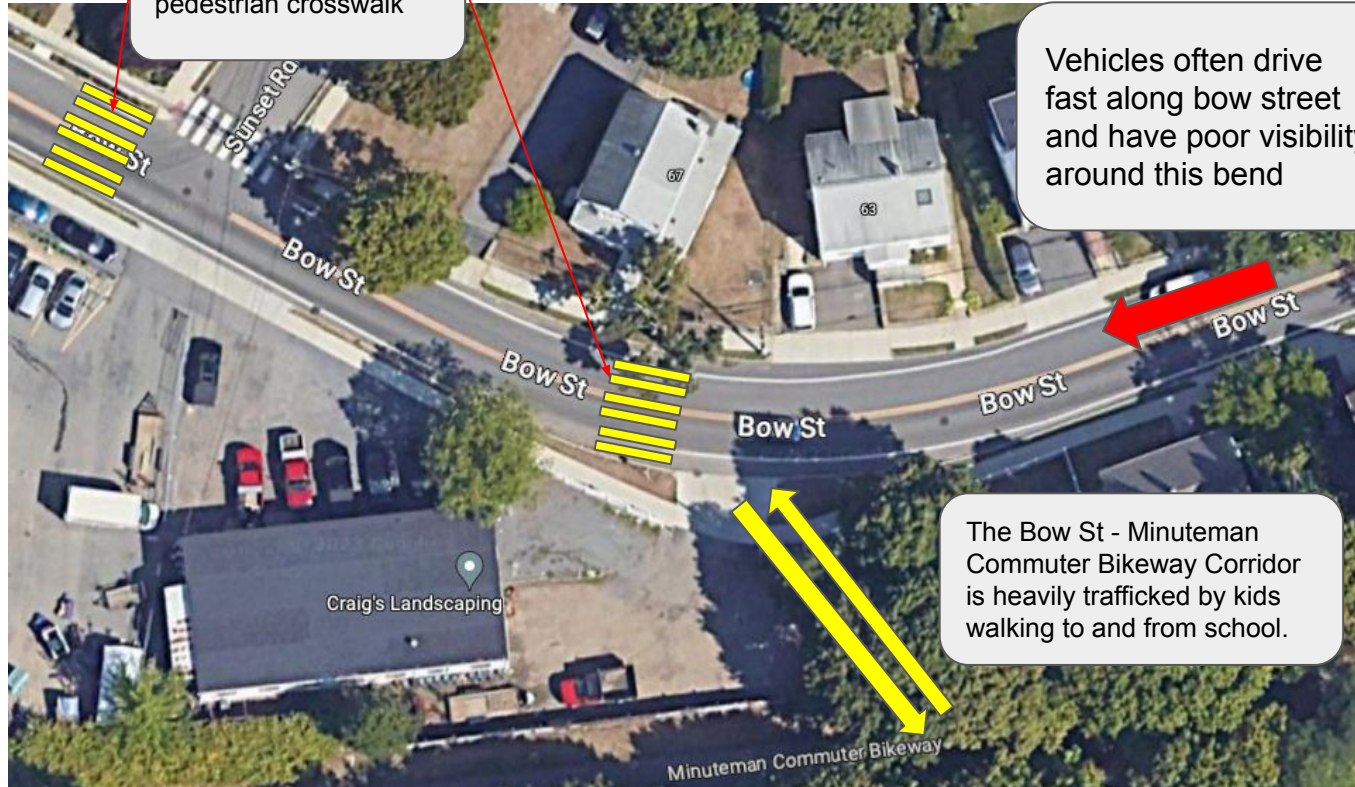


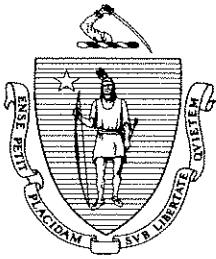
The Bow St - Minuteman  
Commuter Bikeway  
corridor is heavily  
trafficked by kids walking  
to and from school

Possible locations for a pedestrian crosswalk

Vehicles often drive fast along bow street and have poor visibility around this bend

The Bow St - Minuteman Commuter Bikeway Corridor is heavily trafficked by kids walking to and from school.





OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133  
(617) 725-4000

**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
GOVERNOR

**KARYN E. POLITO**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW, G. L. c. 30A, § 20**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus ("COVID-19"); and

**WHEREAS**, many important functions of State and Local Government are executed by "public bodies," as that term is defined in G. L. c. 30A, § 18, in meetings that are open to the public, consistent with the requirements of law and sound public policy and in order to ensure active public engagement with, contribution to, and oversight of the functions of government; and

**WHEREAS**, both the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health ("DPH") have advised residents to take extra measures to put distance between themselves and other people to further reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC and DPH have advised high-risk individuals, including people over the age of 60, anyone with underlying health conditions or a weakened immune system, and pregnant women, to avoid large gatherings.

**WHEREAS**, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise authority over public assemblages as necessary to protect the health and safety of persons; and

**WHEREAS**, low-cost telephone, social media, and other internet-based technologies are currently available that will permit the convening of a public body through virtual means and allow real-time public access to the activities of the public body; and

**WHEREAS** section 20 of chapter 30A and implementing regulations issued by the Attorney General currently authorize remote participation by members of a public body, subject to certain limitations;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I hereby order the following:

(1) A public body, as defined in section 18 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, is hereby relieved from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

Adequate, alternative means of public access shall mean measures that provide transparency and permit timely and effective public access to the deliberations of the public body. Such means may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body while those activities are occurring. Where allowance for active, real-time participation by members of the public is a specific requirement of a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, pursuant to which the proceeding is conducted, any alternative means of public access must provide for such participation.

A municipal public body that for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts is unable to provide alternative means of public access that will enable the public to follow the proceedings of the municipal public body as those activities are occurring in real time may instead post on its municipal website a full and complete transcript, recording, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as practicable upon conclusion of the proceedings. This paragraph shall not apply to proceedings that are conducted pursuant to a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, that requires allowance for active participation by members of the public.

A public body must offer its selected alternative means of access to its proceedings without subscription, toll, or similar charge to the public.

(2) Public bodies are hereby authorized to allow remote participation by all members in any meeting of the public body. The requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at a specified meeting location, as provided in G. L. c. 30A, § 20(d) and in 940 CMR 29.10(4)(b), is hereby suspended.

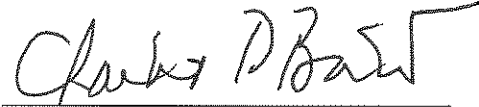
(3) A public body that elects to conduct its proceedings under the relief provided in sections (1) or (2) above shall ensure that any party entitled or required to appear before it shall be able to do so through remote means, as if the party were a member of the public body and participating remotely as provided in section (2).

(4) All other provisions of sections 18 to 25 of chapter 30A and the Attorney General's implementing regulations shall otherwise remain unchanged and fully applicable to the activities of public bodies.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.



Given in Boston at 6:40 PM this 12th day of  
March, two thousand and twenty.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles D. Baker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts